

The Land of Broken Promises

A Stirring Story of the Mexican Revolution

By DANE COOLIDGE
Author of "The Fighting Front," "Wilderness," "The Tractor," etc.

Illustrations by DON J. LAVIN

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(Continued from Yesterday.)

Then there was another trip to the grounds with a surveyor, to make report that the claim was actually vacant, and Mendez went back to his normal duties as a packer.

In return for this service as a dummy locator, and to keep him under the eye, the Americans engaged El Tuerio, the one-eyed, to pack out a few tools and supplies for them; and then, to keep him busy, they employed him further to build a stone house.

All these activities were, of course, not lost on Don Cipriano Aragon y Tres Palacios, since, by a crafty arrangement of fences, he had made it impossible for anyone to reach the lower country without passing through the crooked street of Old Fortuna.

During the first and the second trip of the strange Americans he kept within his dignity, hoping perhaps that they would stop at his store, where they could be engaged in conversation; but upon their return from a third trip, after Cruz Mendez had gone through with their supplies, he cast his proud Spanish reserve to the winds and waylaid them on the street.

"Buena tarde, señores," he saluted, as they rode past his store, and then, seeing that they did not break their gait, he held up his hand for them to stop.

"Excuse me, gentlemen," he said, speaking gently but with an affected Spanish lisp, "I have seen you ride past several times—I hope you are working for the big company up at New Fortuna."

"No, señor," answered De Lancy courteously, "we are working for ourselves."

"Good!" responded Aragon with fatherly approval; "it is better so. And are you looking at mines?"

"Yes," said De Lancy non-committally; "we are looking at mines."

"That is good, too," observed Aragon; "and I wish you well, but since you are strangers to this country and perhaps do not know the people as well as some, I desire to warn you against that one-eyed man, Cruz Mendez, with whom I have seen you riding. He is a worthless fellow—a very paleo Mexican, one who has nothing—and yet he is always seeking to impose upon strangers by selling them old mines which have no value."

"I have no desire to speak ill of my neighbors, but since he has moved into the brush house up the river I have lost several little pigs; and his eye, as I know, was torn from his head as he was chasing another man's cow. I have not suffered him on my ranch for years, for he is such a thief, and yet he has the effrontery to represent himself to strangers as a poor but honest man. I hope that he has not imposed upon you in any way."

"No, not at all, thank you," responded De Lancy, as Bud raised his bride reins to go. "We hired him to pack out our tools and supplies and he has done it very reasonably. But many thanks, sir, for your warning. Adios!"

He touched his hat and waved his hand in parting, and Bud grinned as he settled down to a trot.

"You can't help palavering 'em, can you, Phil?" he said. "No matter what you think about 'em, you got to be polite, haven't you? Well, that's the way you get drawn in—next time you go by now the old man will pump you dry—you see. No, sir, the only way to get along with these Mexicans is not to have a thing to do with 'em. 'No savvy'—that's my motto!"

"Well, 'muchas gracias' is mine," observed De Lancy. "It doesn't cost anything, and it buys a whole lot."

"Sure," agreed Bud, "but we ain't buying nothing from him—he's the one particular hombre we want to steer clear of, and keep him guessing as long as we can. That's my view of it, partner."

"Oh, that's all right," laughed De Lancy, "he won't get anything out of me—that is, nothing but a bunch of hot air. Say, he's a shrewd-looking old guinea, isn't he? Did you notice that game eye? He kept it kind of drooped, almost shut, until he came to the point—and then he opened it up real fierce. Reminds me of a big fighting owl waking up in the daytime. Hup you just watch me handle him, and if I don't fool the old boy at every turn I'll be because I run out of bull."

"Well, you can hand him the bull if you want to," grumbled Bud, "but the first time you give anything away I'm going to pick such a row with the old ass that we'll have to make a new trail to get by. So leave 'im alone, if you ever expect to see that girl!"

A close association with Phil De Lancy had left Bud not unaware of his special weaknesses, and Phil was undoubtedly romantic. Given a barred and silent house, shut off from the street by whitened walls and a ver-

anda screened with flowers, and the queering eyes of Mr. De Lancy would turn to those barred windows as certainly as the needle seeks the pole.

On every trip, coming and going, he had conned the Aragon house from the vine-covered corridor in front to the walled-in summer garden behind, hoping to surprise a view of the beautiful daughter of the house. And unless rumor and Don Juan were at fault, she was indeed worthy of his solicitude—a gay and sprightly creature, brown-eyed like her mother and with the same glorious chestnut hair.

Already those dark, mischievous eyes had been busy and, at the last big dance at Fortuna, she had set many heads awheel. Twice within two years her father, in a rage, had sent her away to school in order to break off some ill-considered love affair; and now a battle royal was being waged between Manuel del Rey, the dashing captain of the rurales stationed at Fortuna, and Feliz Luna, son of a rich hacendado down in the hot country, for the honor of her hand.

What more romantic, then, than that a handsome American, stepping gracefully into the breach, should keep the haughty lovers from slaying each other by beating off the prize himself?

So reasoned Philip De Lancy, musing upon the ease with which he could act the part; but for prudential purposes he said nothing of his vaunting ambitions, knowing full well that they would receive an active veto from Bud.

For, while De Lancy did most of the talking, and a great deal of the thinking for the partnership, Hooker



"By What Right Do You Take Possession of My Mine?"

was not lacking in positive opinions; and upon sufficient occasion he would express himself, though often with more force than delicacy. Therefore, upon this unexpected salutation about the girl, Phil changed the subject abruptly and said, no more of Aragon or the hopes within his heart.

It was not so easy, however, to avoid Aragon, for that gentleman had apparently taken the pains to inform himself as to the place where they were at work, and he was waiting for them in the morning with a frown as black as a thunder cloud.

"He's on!" muttered Phil, as they drew near enough to see his face. "What shall we do?"

"Do nothing," growled Bud through his teeth; "you just let me do the talking!"

He maneuvered his horse adroitly and, with a skilful turn, cut in between his partner and Aragon.

"S' dias," he greeted, gazing down in burly defiance at the militant Aragon; and at the same moment he gave De Lancy's horse a furtive touch with his spur.

"Buena dias, señores!" returned Aragon, striding forward to intercept them, but as neither of the Americans looked back, he was left standing in the middle of the street.

"That's the way to handle 'im," observed Hooker, as they trotted briskly down the lane. "Leave 'im to me!"

"I'll only make him mad," objected De Lancy crossly. "What do you want to do that for?"

"He's mad already," answered Bud. "I want to quarrel with him, so he can't ask us any questions. Get him so mad he won't talk—then I'll be a fair fight and none of this snake-in-the-grass business."

"Yes, but don't put it on him," protested De Lancy. "Let him be friendly for a while, if he wants to."

"Can't be friends," said Bud laconically; "we jumped his claim."

"Maybe he doesn't want it," suggested Phil hopefully. "He's dropped a lot of money on it."

"You bet he wants it," returned Hooker, with conviction. "I'm going to camp out there—the old boy is liable to jump us."

"Aw, you're crazy, Bud!" cried Phil; but Hooker only smiled.

"You know what happened to Kruger," he answered. "I'll tell you what, we got to keep our eye open around here."

They rode on to the mine, which was only about five miles from Fortuna, without discussing the matter further; for, while Phil had generally been the leader, in this particular case Kruger had put Bud in charge, and he seemed determined to have his way so far as Aragon was concerned. In the ordering of supplies and the laying out of development work he deferred to Phil in everything, but for tactics he preferred his own judgment.

(Continued Tomorrow Afternoon.)

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Reports from Every County Show this Year Best in the Livestock History of the State

News and Gossip of the Range in New Mexico

Frank Donagan of Alamogordo, Colorado, an extensive buyer and feeder of cattle has been in Gallup and western New Mexico for a week buying cattle. He was in Albuquerque for a few days, going from here to Santa Fe, where he will contract for several thousand head of Mexican stock from the Terraza ranches.

Ten carloads of cattle from Arago, San Juan county, reached Durango, Colorado last Saturday, bound for Fred Catchpole at Pagosa Springs. The shipment represented a gathering of the San Juan county range and some Navajo stuff. It also included a car of butcher stock for Silverton, Colorado.

Fourteen cars of cattle were ferried across the San Juan at Farmington last week and driven to Arago for loading. The stock was bought by E. C. Chambers for Hatcher brothers at Denver. Farmington is making a vigorous fight for a stock yard which the Denver and Rio Grande railroad has been promising to build for some time.

Joe Cooper of Centerville delivered a bunch of fine cattle at Clayton last week. He is showing out his Union county interests and will move to a new ranch in San Miguel county.

Christing Otto, the big Union county stockman, has shipped about four thousand head of cattle during the past ten days, chiefly to Denver parties for Wyoming feeders.

Among cattle trades at Fort Sumner last week were 165 cows bought from W. H. Lord by T. P. Bates; a shipment of 250 steers to Rife, Colorado by J. E. Brown, and numerous smaller transactions. R. E. Brown drove 250 cows into his ranch which he purchased near Texico.

James Ash of Texico has leased a ranch about 20 miles northwest of Fort Sumner and is moving his cattle there. He brought in 100 head of cattle and 25 horses last week.

William and Henry Gardner of El

Paso bought 220 cattle from the Menzies ranch near Fort Sumner last week.

Gabe and Roy Harrison, recently of Motley county, Texas, are in Fort Sumner looking for a location for a small cow ranch.

Henry J. Ward shipped several cars of cattle from Tucuman last week to Gillette, Wyoming.

We are informed by a representative of the Texas State bank of Fort Worth that a big deal which has been hanging fire for some time between that bank and Arrell & Edwards, of Lubbock, involving several hundred head of the "figure 2" cattle was finally closed Monday, the bank retaining forty and fifty thousand dollars in cash in the deal. This puts this bank on a still stronger financial footing, and it is the aim of the management to make this bank one of the strongest in the Panhandle.—Farwell, Texas, Tribune.

Ed Sherlock, cattle buyer of the Tompkins Cattle company, Denver, Colorado, is in town. Mr. Sherlock is here to receive a shipment of about 25 cars of cattle which he purchased from Frank Wallace. The stock will be delivered here on the 9th or 10th of June.—Holbrook, Ariz., News.

George W. Newell shipped 115 head (two cars) of cattle to Denver Tuesday. In the shipment were 49 year-old heifers and 25 cows and calves.—Holbrook, Ariz., News.

Seventeen car loads of cattle shipped into Chisna and put onto Curry county farms is the record for the past week, Shipley Bros. having brought in fourteen car loads and Dave Owen three.

I. P. Vernon, ranchman, Democratic philosopher, and particularly friend of The News in the Centennial country, was here Tuesday and Wednesday attending to business. He claims the finest crop of calves in the county, and is prepared to prove his claim; and he has lots of them, too.—Clayton News.

KANSAS CITY LIVE STOCK MARKET ON NORMAL BASIS

Kansas City Stock Yards, June 9.—Closing cattle sales last week were 19 to 15 cents above Monday on killing grades. Plain heavy steers showed least activity. The army woe in Missouri, and fear of drought in various localities weakened prices. Cattle and feeders 40 to 55 cents. The supply today is 7,000 head, market on killing cattle steady to weak, and weak to lower on stockers and feeders. Good to choice natives sold at \$8.35 and \$8.40 today, and prime handy weight steers would go a little above \$9. Bulk of the native steers to killers sold at \$7.90 to \$8.65, and any weakness in prices today was made up for by good 90's. Veal calves are stronger, best around \$10, stock calves lower. Prime stockers sell at \$7.50 to \$7.75, and useful cattle at \$6.75 to \$7.25. A good run of Missouri stock is here today, including 28 cars of the Milwaukee and a special train of 10 cars from King City, but distant territory is being drawn on to make the modest total supply, a train of 17 cars of western slope Colorado cattle being the chief contribution of this kind today.

The latter sold at \$7.75 to \$8.15. Eight cars of western Nebraska stock arrived over the Union Pacific short line. About 24 cars of Colorado short western Nebraska sugar mill cattle are expected tomorrow, owners of these cattle have tested various markets recently with repeated shipments, but Kansas City salesmen have outdone rivals at other markets in their sales, hence they get the entire shipment this week. Quarantine receipts are 32 cars today, market fully steady, offerings including north Texas feeders at \$7.75 to \$8.10, and low grade Oklahoma grass steers at \$6.35 to \$6.60.

Hog receipts today are 7,500 here, but a run of 45,000 at Chicago. Most of the apple cart, and prices are mostly 10 cents lower, top \$5.15, bulk \$5.00 to \$5.15. The power of the consuming public to absorb hogs at a range of prices above eight dollars is dependably only when receipts are very light. May receipts at the leading markets combined, were 15 per cent short of May last year, and 40 per cent short of May, 1908, the heaviest May on record at the big markets. Progress toward normal supplies will naturally be attended with declining prices.

Native spring lambs gained 40 to 50 cents last week, and are holding it, quite a number of sales today at \$9.50. Native ewes are worth \$4.25 to \$5.25, wethers up to \$6.10, yearlings \$7.00. Goats are 25 lower today, wood brooder angoras at \$4.10, and slick haired Mexican at \$3.25. Texas natives are steady today, some ewes at \$5.25, choice wethers worth \$5.50, some yearlings and lambs mixed at \$6.75. Receipts are 10,000 today, but light runs are expected ahead.

THESE MEN WANT STILL HIGHER PRICE

The Silver City Enterprise says: Pat and Barney McKelvey of Alma are shipping wool to Silver City, awaiting a fluctuation for the better in the market. They are storing in the Bonanza and Eno warehouses and will ship when prices raise.

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TELLS KANSAS CITY ABOUT BIG CLIP IN THE PECOS VALLEY

(Kansas City Drivers Telegram.) S. P. Henry of Artesia, N. M., who marketed here a few days ago 2,000 head of yearlings, his second large shipment this month, predicts that the wool sales of the valley will be large this season.

"Wool buyers are showing up already and by the time all the wool is collected there sales will be made," Mr. Henry said. "The clip was good and the market is going to be satisfactory."

Mr. Henry has 58,000 pounds of wool for sale. At a conservative estimate it will bring him \$9,000. Mr. Henry also reports a lamb crop of about 30 per cent, which is a good record.

HOW BREEDING ONE KIND OF CATTLE PAYS

The community which breeds one kind of cattle will attract buyers, while the other fellows who breed no particular kind of stock, or have several kinds, will have to hunt for a market, and when they find the market it will not have the same prestige. The stock can be produced cheaper, too, where several ranchmen are raising one kind. The buyer who wants to pick up a carload of nice cattle and has to visit ten or fifteen herds scattered over a whole county will use up two weeks time and pay out a lot of money for livery and hotel bills and then if he finds one or two animals at each place, it will be expensive and require a good deal of time to get them all together.

On the other hand, if the ten or fifteen herds are located close together, he could visit them in one or two days. In three days time he could have them brought and all loaded on a car ready for shipping, while in the other case it might be three weeks or even more to accomplish the same thing.—Denver Field and Farm.

BURRO MOUNTAIN MAN HAS SERIOUS ACCIDENT

While branding was in progress Wednesday on the ranch of Robert Royall, in the Burro mountains, a board in the branding pen was knocked loose, striking Mr. Royall on the temple and severing an artery. He was rushed to Silver City in David Tullock's car, where he received medical attention. The loss of blood was great and it was thought while en route to the city that he could not survive the accident. He is able to be out.

HOG CHOLERA SHOWS IN ARTESIA DISTRICT

The Artesia News says: There have been some heavy losses among hog raisers in this vicinity lately. This is the first time in the history of hog raising here that losses of any consequence have occurred. It is hoped that the cholera will soon be stamped out. A preventive is being used by some of the growers with success. E. C. Hising has been a heavy loser, having lost several fine brood sows and many shoats.

To Avoid Thistle Bloat

The Estancia News says: A. W. Lytle says that the thistle bloat in cattle can be avoided by following this system: Don't allow cattle on thistles early in the morning when they are wet; keep cattle yarded until about 8 o'clock, and water them frequently, at least three times a day. Don't wait for them to come to the water, but drive them to it and keep them there until they drink each time. The bloat is caused by a gaseous ferment thistles and then a gorge of water.

An Essay on Men

A little girl wrote the following composition on men: Men are what women marry. They drink and smoke and swear, but don't go to church. Perhaps if they were honest they would. They are more logical than women and also more logical. Both men and women sprang from monkeys, but the women sprang farther than the men.

Not Much Between Them. "Do I understand," said the irate parent, "that there is some idiotic affair between you and that impudent young Dedrick?"

"Not very much, papa," replied his daughter sweetly, "only you."

WOOL MARKET GOES FEW NOTCHES HIGHER

Prices Firm in West With Sales Noted in Boston During Past Week of From Seven to Eight Million Lbs.

The Boston Commercial Bulletin in its weekly review of the wool market says in part:

The wool market has suddenly broadened out again, and large sales are noted of both domestic and foreign grades. Sales are estimated by this source of new territory wools to have totaled up to 7,000,000 to 8,000,000 pounds, but more conservative estimates place the actual transactions at something under this. Sales of new territory wools are estimated at above 2,000,000 pounds, and there has also been a heavy movement in foreign wools of all grades. Buyers from some of the larger mills have been in the market, and in some cases have taken large lots of wool of grades which have recently been slow sellers.

There is considerably strength in the market, but actual advances have been small. Manufacturers are resisting as much as possible the upward tendency of values, but the events of the week show clearly a determination to stock up before further advances are established.

It is also noted that purchases, especially of the new territory wools, had some immediately into consumption, but the big sales of foreign wools during the past week could hardly have taken this direction.

Markets firm.—In the west the speculative fever is running as strong as the sold up condition of the new clip will allow. Highest prices of the season have been paid for both territories and fleeces. In Montana over 20 cents has been paid for the Williamson clip, and fine single wools have sold freely at 20 cents. Average clips have sold at 19 to 18 1/2 cents. In the Triangle as high as 21 cents has been paid, and in Oregon both dealers and mill buyers are operating on the basis of 20 cents clean for choice fine and 57 cents for average wools.

New clip territory wools have moved quite freely during the past week, the total sales being estimated at about 100 million pounds. All the leading houses have been selling according to stock, while both woolen and worsted mills have been operating. Utah continue to make up the bulk of the current business, but the market is broadening and good sales are noted of Colorado and Wyoming. Original bag wool has sold freely, but graded lots, especially of medium clips, are attracting considerable attention. Original Utah wool has sold at 19 1/2 to 21 cents, the bulk cost being estimated at 15 to 25 cents, and in some cases as high as 25 to 30 cents. One house reports the transfer of 500 bags of original Utah on the low edge of the above quotations, while another firm sold a quarter of a million pounds of similar wool at 25 1/2 cents, estimated to cost 25 to 26 cents.

Original Colorado have changed hands at 20 to 22 cents, the clean cost being estimated at 15 to 24 cents. 150,000 pounds being sold at this figure. The transfer is noted of 200,000 pounds original Wyoming at 15 to 25 cents in the grease, the accurate cost being estimated at 15 to 25 cents.

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THIS IS THE SHEEP MAN'S BANNER SEASON

Western Socorro County Growers Said to Have Had the Biggest Year in History of the Business.

(From the Magdalena News.) Last autumn the cattle men had their innings. They sold cattle by the thousand at a big price. Many of them bought autos and flung the dust in the eyes of the sheep men, who had to be content with logging along with the old "brone," and taking the dust of the opulent and "swelled up" sellers of "white faces" at fancy prices.

Now, things are different. The sheep men are coming to the front. At 50 per cent or thereabouts of lambs, an average of seven pounds per head of wool and the price quoted at around 15 cents, the sheep men are looking up and beginning to talk automobiles.

And they have a right to talk and sweat out their chests. There are hundreds of sheep raisers with from 10,000 to 100,000 pounds of wool to sell. This at 14 1/2 to 18, which figure it is likely to reach, will enable many of our sheep raisers to pay their debts and have a good surplus in the bank.

Among the big men there is scarcely a limit to the money they will handle. The big Luna flock, handled by Ed Otero will turn off near a million pounds of wool. Then the Luna, far and heavy, will bring several dollars to the lead. A great many sheep men put lambs on at 95 per cent. It will be seen that there is big money in the sheep business, taking one year with another.

Frank Hubbard's crop will beat all records. His shipment amounted to about 1,000,000 pounds of wool, and turned out nearly 50,000 lambs.

The Montezuma sheep company, J. J. Davis, manager, will turn out some 30,000 more lambs and about \$25,000 worth of wool. There are others like the Fullerton, Jose M. Jaramillo and Son of Burley, Morley of Dali and a dozen others who can be mentioned, who will sell from 10,000 to a half million pounds of wool, and a large proportion of lambs